

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-9 are pending in the present application, Claims 1 and 3-6 having been amended, Claims 7-9 having been added. Applicants respectfully submit that no new matter is added.¹

In the outstanding Office Action, the references included on the Form PTO 1449 filed May 8, 2006 were not considered as not being accompanied by English translations; the specification was objected to as containing errors; Claim 4 was objected to as containing informalities; Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as indefinite; Claims 4 and 6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 as directed to non-statutory subject matter; Claims 1-2 and 5-6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Kuriya et al. (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2001/0056404 A1, hereinafter “Kuriya”) in view of Natsuno et al. (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0194474 A1, hereinafter “Natsuno”); Claim 3 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Kuriya in view of Natsuno and Flanagin et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,128,661, hereinafter “Flanagin”); and Claim 4 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Kuriya in view of Natsuno, Flanagin, and Takeuchi (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0134615 A1).

With regard to the references included on the Form PTO 1449, Applicants note that M.P.E.P. §609.04(a)(III) states,

Where the information listed is not in the English language, but was cited in a search report or other action by a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, the requirement for a concise explanation of relevance can be satisfied by submitting an English-language version of the

¹ Applicants have amended Claims 1 and 3-4 to address cosmetic matters of form. The amendments to Claims 5-6 find support at least in Figure 6 and its accompanying text in the specification.

search report or action which indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office.

It is noted that an English-language version of an International Search Report indicating the degree of relevance of the references included on the Form PTO 1449 was filed on May 8, 2006. Thus, it is submitted that the requirement for a concise explanation of relevance is satisfied. Applicants accordingly request that the Office consider the references included on the Form PTO 1149 filed May 8, 2006.

Applicants have amended the specification and Claim 4 as suggested by the Office. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter is added. Applicants accordingly request the withdrawal of the objections to the specification and Claim 4.

Applicants have amended Claim 1 to clarify the deleting means. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter is added. Applicants therefore request the withdrawal of the rejection of Claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

Applicants now turn to the rejections of Claims 4 and 6 under 35 U.S.C. § 101. Applicants submit that Claim 4 includes all the features of Claim 3, which recites an information-processing system comprising an information-processing apparatus.² Accordingly, because the information-processing apparatus included in Claim 4 is a machine, Claim 4 recites statutory subject matter.

Applicants have amended Claim 6 as suggested by the Office Action and therefore submit that Claim 6 recites statutory subject matter.³

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the rejections of Claims 4 and 6 under 35 U.S.C. §101.

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Kuriya in view of Natsuno. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

² 37 C.F.R. § 1.75(c); MPEP 608.01(n).

³ Office Action at 6, ll. 1-4.

Amended Claim 1 recites an information-processing apparatus including, in part, “deleting means for deleting the apparatus ID data after deleting the service ID data” Applicants respectfully submit that Kuriya and Natsuno fail to disclose these features.

In a Kuriya manager server, “the content management program 154 . . . deletes the device ID corresponding to the content ID from the content management table 162.”⁴ Meanwhile, in a Kuriya mobile telephone, “the content management program 144 of the mobile telephone 11 deletes the content from the storage block 39.”⁵

Thus, Kuriya merely describes a server deleting a device ID and a mobile telephone deleting content. Applicants submit that Kuriya fails to disclose or suggest “deleting means for deleting the apparatus ID data after deleting the service ID data,” as recited in Claim 1.

Natsuno concerns a mobile terminal in which “The UIM 12 resets, from ‘1’ to ‘0’ the activation flag prepared for the basic block specified by the deactivation request.”⁶ Natsuno explains that, later, “The UIM 12 deletes the program in the basic block specified by the program deletion request.”⁷

Even under an interpretation in which the Natsuno UIM deletes the activation flag, Natsuno merely describes deleting the flag *before* deleting the program. Applicants submit that Natsuno fails to disclose or suggest “deleting means for deleting the apparatus ID data after deleting the service ID data,” as recited in Claim 1.

Indeed, in addressing Applicants’ deleting means, the Office merely asserts that “It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have the service ID data deleted before the apparatus ID data.”⁸ In so reasoning, the Office explains that “the provider would not be able to successfully identify the service ID that needs to be deleted next because the

⁴ Kuriya, para. [0267]. Accord Kuriya, para. [0324].

⁵ Id., para. [0320].

⁶ Id., para. [0132].

⁷ Id., para. [0138].

⁸ Office Action at 8, ll. 7-8.

association between the apparatus ID and the service ID has been lost since the apparatus ID is no longer on record to identify the record of the canceled service.”⁹

However, Applicants submit that the Office’s provider *would* be able to identify the service ID to be deleted. Indeed, the service ID to be deleted would be the only service ID without an association to an apparatus ID. In the Office’s example, the service ID associated with the other apparatus ID data (that is, the apparatus ID that is not to be deleted) would be identifiable by its association to that other apparatus ID data. Therefore, the Office’s reasoning fails to suggest “deleting means for deleting the apparatus ID data after deleting the service ID data,” as recited in Claim 1.

Further, Applicants note that the Supreme Court stated in KSR Int’l Co. v. Teleflex Inc., “The fact that the elements worked together in an unexpected and fruitful manner supported the conclusion that [the] design was not obvious to those skilled in the art.”¹⁰ Applicants submit that their recognition of a problem in the art at the time of their invention led to such fruition.

Indeed, Applicants’ specification explains,

Hence, the service ID has been deleted even if a trouble develops when the terminal ID is deleted. As a result, the integrated service server 35 would not keep storing the service ID only. This prevents the mail magazine from being continuously distributed to the user’s mail address of the terminal apparatus 10.¹¹

Further, according to Applicants’ specification, “There is no risk that the integrated service server 35 can no longer be accessed in order to delete the service ID.”¹² Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that the recited deleting means are nonobvious.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that Kuriya, Natsuno, and the Office’s reasoning fail to disclose or suggest the deleting means recited in Claim 1. Accordingly,

⁹ Id., ll. 13-16.

¹⁰ 550 US 398 (U.S. 2007).

¹¹ Spec., at para. spanning 34-35.

¹² Id., at 35, first para..

Claim 1 (and all associated dependent claims) patentably distinguishes over any proper combination of Kuriya, Natsuno, and the Office's reasoning.

Further, it is submitted that independent Claims 5-6 also distinguish over Kuriya, Natsuno, and the Office's reasoning for the same reasons as discussed above with regard to Claim 1 and for the more detailed features presented in these claims.

With regard to independent Claim 3, it is submitted that Flanagin does not disclose or suggest "deleting means for deleting the apparatus ID data after deleting the service ID data." Indeed, the Office does not assert otherwise. Applicants submit that independent Claim 3 (and all associated dependent claims) patentably distinguishes over any proper combination of Kuriya, Natsuno, Flanagin, and the Office's reasoning.

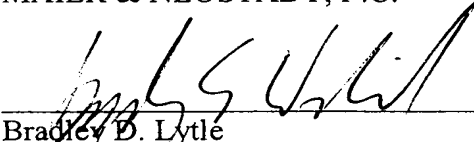
Further, it is submitted that Takeuchi fails to remedy the above-noted deficiencies in Kuriya, Natsuno, and Flanagin. Accordingly, the rejection of dependent Claim 4 is rendered moot.

Applicants have added new Claim 7 to set forth invention defined in Claim 1 in a manner that does not invoke 35 U.S.C. § 112, sixth paragraph. Further, Applicants have added new Claims 8-9 to set forth the invention recited in Claim 1 in a varying scope. It is submitted new Claim 7 finds support at least in Claim 1, new Claim 8 finds support at least in Figure 13 and its accompanying text in the specification, and new Claim 9 finds support at least in Figure 22 and its accompanying text in the specification. Applicants accordingly submit that no new matter is added. It is further submitted that new Claims 7-9 are allowable for the same reasons as discussed above with regard to Claim 1, from which Claims 8-9 depend, and for the more detailed features presented by these new claims.

Consequently, in light of the above discussion and in view of the present amendment, the present application is believed to be in condition for allowance. An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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